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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## LIBRARY COMMITTEE

OF THE

# COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

OF PHILADELPHIA

FOR THE YEAR 1912



REPRINTED FROM THE TRANSACTIONS  
THIRD SERIES, XXXIV, 1912



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE FOR 1912

MR. PRESIDENT: In accordance with the ordinances and By-Laws of the College, I herewith submit the following report of the Library Committee for the year 1912:

Total number of volumes in the Library, including the bound volumes and 8600 unbound "Reports" and "Transactions" . . . . .	97,803
Number of unbound "Theses" and "Dissertations" . . . . .	10,123
Number of unbound pamphlets . . . . .	75,125

Included in the above total there are 3041 volumes known as "reserves," consisting of second copies of some of the more important periodical publications, and 2926 volumes more or less incomplete.

In addition, the duplicates at this date number 3926 volumes.

The following table shows the number of volumes in the various divisions of the Library:

	Bound.	Incomplete and unbound.	Total.
General Library . . . . .	69,042	2863	71,905
Lewis Library . . . . .	13,543	44	13,587
On permanent deposit:			
S. D. Gross Library . . . . .	3,491	3	3,494
Library of the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia . . . . .	217	0	217
			89,203

The Library has received from all sources, during the past year, 4317 volumes, 7345 pamphlets, and 32,194 numbers of various periodicals. Of these 285 were received in exchange.

## Accessions (including 106 volumes of "reserves"):

General Library . . . . .	2840
Lewis Library . . . . .	14
S. D. Gross Library . . . . .	46
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	2900

The individual "donors" for the year ending November 1, 1912, number 553; this represents 1049 distinct presentations. Every gift, whether it be a single reprint or a large number of volumes, is duly acknowledged and properly recorded.

The following list shows the donations of twenty-five volumes or more, the number of volumes presented by the various publishing houses, and the gifts of the Philadelphia Pediatric Society:

	Volumes.
Dr. E. L. Duer . . . . .	339
Dr. De Forest P. Willard . . . . .	244
Dr. S. W. Morton . . . . .	132
Dr. J. B. Roberts . . . . .	107
Mr. William Janney . . . . .	94
Dr. H. A. Hare . . . . .	73
Dr. W. W. Keen . . . . .	61
Dr. W. G. Spiller . . . . .	48
Mrs. J. B. Walker . . . . .	48
Dr. F. R. Packard . . . . .	43
Dr. A. A. Snyder . . . . .	41
Dr. G. E. de Schweinitz . . . . .	38
Dr. G. M. Marshall . . . . .	34
Dr. E. H. Goodman . . . . .	32
Dr. H. M. Fisher . . . . .	30
Dr. S. Weir Mitchell . . . . .	29

## From the publishing houses of:

D. Appleton & Company . . . . .	5
P. Blakiston's Son & Company . . . . .	39
F. A. Davis Company . . . . .	11
Lea & Febiger . . . . .	6
J. B. Lippincott Company . . . . .	22
W. B. Saunders Company . . . . .	44
William Wood & Company . . . . .	9

From the Philadelphia Pediatric Society: . . . . .      3

The Library is indebted for large gifts of pamphlets and unbound periodicals to the following gentlemen:

Dr. J. M. Anders	Dr. J. H. Girvin	Dr. F. R. Packard
Dr. A. P. C. Ashhurst	Dr. E. H. Goodman	Dr. J. B. Roberts
Dr. E. J. G. Beardsley	Dr. H. A. Hare	Dr. P. J. Sartain
Dr. H. W. Cattell	Dr. C. J. Hatfield	Dr. T. B. Sehneidemann
Dr. Burton Chance	Dr. F. P. Henry	Dr. B. Schwartz
Dr. S. Solis Cohen	Dr. A. B. Hirsh	Dr. G. E. de Schweinitz
Dr. E. P. Davis	Dr. L. W. Johnson	Dr. P. N. K. Schwenk
Dr. G. G. Davis	Dr. Bayard Kane	Dr. J. J. Taylor
Dr. E. L. Duer	Dr. W. W. Keen	Dr. James Thorington
Dr. C. W. Dulles	Dr. R. G. Le Conte	Dr. E. Q. Thornton
Dr. A. A. Eshner	Dr. G. M. Marshall	Dr. W. H. Trueman
Dr. T. H. Fenton	Dr. Edward Martin	Dr. H. R. Wharton
Dr. D. W. Fetterolf	Dr. John K. Mitchell	Dr. J. William White
Dr. John V. Fisher	Dr. S. Weir Mitchell	Dr. J. C. Wilson
Dr. C. H. Frazier	Dr. C. C. Norris	Dr. A. C. Wood
Dr. J. S. Gibb	Dr. C. A. O'Reilly	Dr. H. C. Wood

Also to Messrs. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., J. B. Lippincott Company, William B. Saunders Company, and John Wyeth & Brother.

724 new publications were added to the Library during the past year; 41 of these works were written or edited by Fellows of the College.

30 volumes were presented by the following authors or editors:

Dr. Paul Bar (Paris)	Sir William Osler, M.D., Bart.
Dr. George E. Brewer	Dr. William Pepper
Dr. E. de Cyon (Paris)	Dr. L. S. Pilcher
Dr. T. Diller	Dr. C. S. Potts
Dr. Seneca Egbert	Dr. John B. Roberts
Dr. Martin H. Fisher	Sir James Sawyer, M.D.
Dr. Hobart A. Hare (editor)	Dr. James Thorington
Dr. Edward Jackson	Dr. James J. Walsh
Dr. Otto Juettner	Dr. T. H. Weisenburg
Dr. Howard A. Kelly	Dr. Royal Whitman
Dr. H. R. M. Landis (editor)	Dr. Casey A. Wood
Dr. F. La Torre (Paris)	Dr. T. A. Woodruff
Dr. J. Ewing Mears	

18 volumes were sent by the publishers at the request of the following authors or editors:

Dr. B. K. Ashford	Dr. P. G. Igaravidez
Dr. A. P. Brubaker	Dr. Howard A. Kelly
Dr. H. W. Cattell (editor)	Dr. E. E. Montgomery
Dr. R. M. Goepf	Dr. John H. Musser
Dr. G. M. Gould	Dr. Walter L. Pyle
Dr. H. F. Hansell	Dr. Wendell Reber
Dr. J. C. Heisler	Dr. James Thorington

Summary of the "Funds":

	Volumes purchased.	Cost.	Volumes bound.	Cost.
Henrietta Rush Fales Baker Fund	67	\$213.54	15	\$12.55
Luther S. Bent Fund	22	48.78	5	3.55
William T. Carter Fund	61	258.67	15	14.65
Girardus Clarkson Fund	12	41.64	5	2.10
Francis X. Dercum Fund	66	250.39	10	4.95
John D. Griscom Fund	80	277.08	21	14.95
William F. Jenks Fund	124	515.08	15	9.00
Oliver A. Judson Fund	16	63.78	3	1.45
Wm. V. and John M. Keating Fund	14	55.14	3	2.15
William W. Keen Fund	71	264.89	12	7.75
Library Endowment Fund	156	660.96		
Charles K. Mills Fund	1	1.32		
Weir Mitchell Fund	59	240.46		
John H. Musser Fund	7	24.56		
Elizabeth K. Newcomet Fund	18	34.72	4	2.15
William F. Norris Fund	42	167.08	12	10.45
Philadelphia Medical Society Fund	4	16.40		
Lewis Rodman Fund	50	282.06	4	10.50
Douglas Stockton Warren Fund	7	24.30		
John F. Weightman Fund	19	52.67	8	3.50
Caspar Wistar Fund	43	215.16	5	3.00
Total	939	\$3708.68	137	\$102.70

## Special Accounts:

	Volumes purchased.	Cost.	Volumes bound.	Cost.
Fund for completing files of journals	119	\$330.64		
Fund for rare and valuable books	24	299.62		
Journal Association	20	139.50		
New Book Fund	40	137.02		
J. Ewing Mears Account	26	91.63	6	\$3.05
S. D. Gross Library Account	41	228.72	4	5.30
Total	270	\$1227.13	10	\$8.35

George B. Wood Fund for Library supplies, stationery, etc. Expended \$272.89.

There were 1547 volumes bound during the past year. This includes all new books and current periodicals, and 370 volumes of pamphlets and reports.

	1912.	1911.	Increase.
Number of visitors to the Library	7329	6157	1172
Fellows of the College	3029	2955	74

The Library has been kept open two evenings each week, and on the six minor legal holidays, for the same hours and period of time as during the preceding year:

	1912. (80 evenings)	1911. (77 evenings)	Increase.
Visitors, evening	545	410	135
Fellows of the College	199	185	14
Visitors, legal holidays	133	100	33
Fellows of the College	40	34	6

The above figures are included in the total number of visitors for the year.

	1912.	1911.	Increase.
Number of books consulted in the Library	17,146	16,003	1143

The number of books reported as "consulted in the Library" includes only those supplied by the Librarian or his assistants. Readers have access to the bound volumes kept on the shelves

in the "Reading Room," and the Fellows of the College have access to the "book stacks." There are, therefore, a great many volumes consulted of which no accurate record can be kept.

	1912.	1911.	Increase.
Number of books taken out . . . . .	3758	3643	115
	Works.	Volumes.	Cards written.
Cataloguing . . . . .	985	1165	10,123

All the books added to the shelves during the past year have been catalogued, and each volume accessioned and shelf-listed. Of the unbound pamphlets and reprints received during the year 5384 have been retained and subject-headed.

2455 new shelf-list cards have been typewritten. This completes the typewritten card shelf-list of the General Library.

Revision of catalogue: Number of cards revised, typewritten, examined, and alphabetized for the year ending November 1, 1912, 20,000.

The revision of the catalogue has been completed as far as the second series of the "Index-Catalogue" has been issued—"Stysanus"—and the work will be finished as rapidly as the remaining volumes of the alphabet appear. The shelf-list cards of the General Library, which are now complete to date, are a part of the revision; this list, together with the lists of the Lewis and Gross libraries, were formerly in book form. Cards for the Lewis and Gross libraries are now being typewritten, as time permits in connection with the regular duties. The shelf-list is a facsimile, on cards, of the arrangement of the books upon the shelves, and is used for stocktaking, and for tracing missing books when only the class and number are known.

Under the head of "revision" mention can properly be made of the change in the arrangement of unbound pamphlets and reprints. The Library Committee, September 23, 1912, approved the recommendation of the Librarian, and ordered that "the unbound pamphlets and reprints in the Library of the College

of Physicians be arranged by subjects, and alphabetically by author under the subject, following the plan adopted in the 'Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office;' and, further, that the proper subject-heading be written upon each pamphlet or reprint." Formerly the unbound pamphlets and reprints were arranged by classes, the same as the books upon the shelves. This has not proved satisfactory. Books, from the nature of their contents, in most cases, can only be arranged by classes and their subdivisions; unbound reprints, on the other hand, are almost invariably upon a single subject, and therefore each pamphlet can have its correct subject-heading written upon it, and arranged upon the shelves alphabetically by subject, as well as by author, under the subject. This arrangement forms a subject catalogue of pamphlets upon the shelves, in the same manner as cards written for the subjects and placed in the catalogue trays. When the pamphlets accumulate, from twenty to fifty, according to their size, on one subject or division of a subject, they can be bound in a volume and placed with the books under the proper class. One card under the subject or subdivision of the subject, as the case may be, placed in the catalogue, covers the twenty or fifty pamphlets in the volume, and makes available to the reader or student a collection of original articles on a particular subject which could be obtained otherwise only by referring to numerous periodicals, after the references had been obtained. To catalogue each pamphlet would not only be a waste of time, but would fill up the catalogue with useless cards; and economy of space is of great importance especially, as in the present instance, where the room allotted for catalogue trays is limited.

This additional work has been added to the duties of the Catalogue department, at present, principally under the head of "revision." Up to the present time 200 volumes, representing 4036 pamphlets and reprints, have been bound by subjects, and 5384 unbound pamphlets and reprints have been subject-headed and arranged alphabetically by subject, and by author under the subject, upon the shelves.

The current periodical publications, including "Transactions" and "Reports," received as issued, at this time are obtained through the following sources:

	American.	Foreign.
Henrietta Rush Fales Baker Fund . . . . .	0	30
William T. Carter Fund . . . . .	2	24
Francis X. Dercum Fund . . . . .	0	12
John D. Griscom Fund . . . . .	4	39
Samuel D. Gross Library Account . . . . .	0	3
William F. Jenks Fund . . . . .	3	38
Journal Association . . . . .	1	11
Oliver A. Judson Fund . . . . .	0	6
William V. and John M. Keating Fund . . . . .	0	7
William W. Keen Fund . . . . .	3	24
Library Endowment Fund . . . . .	4	113
J. Ewing Mears Account . . . . .	0	1
Weir Mitchell Fund . . . . .	1	33
Elizabeth K. Newcomet Fund . . . . .	0	1
William F. Norris Fund . . . . .	1	10
Philadelphia Medical Society Fund . . . . .	0	6
Lewis Rodman Fund . . . . .	0	14
John F. Weightman Fund . . . . .	0	4
Caspar Wistar Fund . . . . .	4	19
By Purchase (General Account) . . . . .	14	176
In Exchange . . . . .	88	82
Editors . . . . .	120	21
Publishers . . . . .	41	1
Total . . . . .	286	675
In addition, current numbers of periodicals are received at stated intervals through the courtesy of the editors and editorial staff of the following journals:	188	105
American Journal of the Medical Sciences		
Medical Council		
Therapeutic Gazette.		
	474	780

Total number of periodical publications received at this date, 1254.

Increase in subscriptions for the year: American, 23; foreign, 109. Total, 132.

We exchange publications with the following schools of medicine:

University of Basel.	University of Kiel.
" Berlin.	" Königsberg.
" Bern.	" Lausanne.
" Bonn.	" Leiden.
" Breslau.	" Leipzig.
" Erlangen.	" Lund.
" Geneva.	" Marburg.
" Giessen.	" Rostock.
" Göttingen.	" Strassburg.
" Greifswald.	" Upsala.
" Halle.	" Würzburg.
" Heidelberg.	" Zurieh.

Faculty of Medicine of Bruxelles.

"	"	Paris.
"	"	Toulouse.
"	"	Yucatán.

The University of Lund (Universitets-Biblioteket, Lund) has been added to the list during the past year, as has also the Faculty of Medicine of Yucatán (Escuela de Medicina, Cirugia y Farmacia de Yucatán).

1206 Dissertations have been added to the Library during the past year.

We have received for the current year ending November 1, 1912, \$206.89 in cash from the sale of duplicates. 125 volumes and 8030 numbers of journals were received in exchange, arranged on a cash basis, from two New York dealers.

During the year we have distributed duplicate books and journals on exchange account to the following:

- Boston Medical Library.
- Lane Medical Library, San Francisco.
- United States Naval Medical School Library.
- University of Michigan.
- University of Missouri.
- University of Pennsylvania.

Returns have been received from the Boston Medical Library and the United States Naval Medical School Library.

With the aid of exchanges, and by purchase, from funds appropriated for the purpose by the Library Committee, we have, since November 1, 1911, completed our files of the following journals:

- Archiv für Anatomie und Physiologie.
- Archiv für Anatomic, Physiologie und wissenschaftliche Medicin.
- Archivio italiano di ginecologia.
- Bulletin de la Société française d'histoire de la médecine.
- Le Concours médical.
- La Ginecologia.
- Revista di clinica pediatrica.
- Revue clinique d'andrologie et de gynécologie.
- Revue pratique des maladies des organes génito-urinaires.
- Schweizerische Blätter für Gesundheitspflege.
- Zeitschrift für Morphologie und Anthropologie.
- Zentralblatt für chirurgische und mechanische Orthopädie.

Amount of fines collected from November 1, 1911, to November 1, 1912, \$19.65.

The following is a list of the rare medical books and works of special interest received during the past year.

*The antiquarian*

Total number of manuscripts at this date, 170

Barzizius, Christoforus. Introductorium ad opus practicum medicinae cum commentariis in ix Almansoriis. Papiae, Antonius de Carchano, 1494. [Hain no. 2666.] This edition is extremely rare. Only three copies mentioned by Pellechet. No copy either in the British Museum or in the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office. (Presented by Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.)

Burley, Walter. De vita et moribus philosophorum et poetarum. [Parisiis, Geo. Mittelhus, 1496.] [Copinger no. 1389.] (Fund for rare books.)

Culmacher, Philipp von Eger. Regimen wider die Pestilenz. [circa 1480.] [Hain no. 5848.] Not in the "Index-Catalogue" or in any bibliographical work which we have been able to consult; and, from inquiries we have made, it seems probable that it is the only copy in this country. (Presented by Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.)

Diogenes Cynicus. *Epistolae.* Diogenes epistolae interprete Francisco Aretino, Bruti et Hippocratis epistolae per Rainucium traductae. Florentiae, Antonium Francisci Venetum, 1487. [Hain-Copinger no. 6193.] Very rare. (Fund for rare books.)

Dondus Paduanus, Jacobus. Aggregator Paduanus de medicinis simplicibus. [Argentorati, Rusch, circa 1470.] [Hain no. 6395.] Dr. Garrison, of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, says of this work, "the earliest known of medical incunabula." This is a perfect copy in excellent condition. (Presented by Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.)

Gerson, Johannes. *De cognitione castitatis et pollutionibus diurnis, etc.* [Coloniae, Ulrich Zell, circa 1470.] [Hain no. 7691.] (Presented by Dr. Richard H. Harte.)

Gerson, Johannes. *De pollutione nocturna, an impedit celebrantem vel non.* [Coloniae, Ulrich Zell, circa 1472-73.] [Hain no. 7695.] This is a rare edition, in a wonderfully good state of preservation, from the first press at Cologne. (Presented by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell.)

Johannes Peachamus. Archbishop of Canterbury. *Prospectiva communis.* [Mediolani, Petrus Cornenus, circa 1480.] [Hain no. 9425.] Deals largely with the eye and optics. Very rare. (Fund for rare books.)

Paulus Venetus, Nicoletus. *Expositio librorum naturalium Aristotelis.* Venetiis, Johannis de Colonia, 1476. [Hain no. 12515.] (Fund for rare books.)

Savonarola, Hieronymus. *Ricetto contra morbo spirituale.* [Florentiae, Bartholomaeus de Libris, 1497.] [Hain no. 14371.] Very rare. (Fund for rare books.)

#### *Works of Special Interest*

Aldrovandus, Ulysses. *De reliquis animalibus exanguibus libri quatuor.* Bononiae, Bellagambam, 1606. *De quadrupedibus solipedibus volumen integrum.* Bononiae, Thebaldinum, 1639. *Serpentum et draconum historiae, libri duo.* Bononiae, Ferronii, 1640. *Quadrupedum omnium bisuleorum historia.* Bononiae, Ferronii, 1642. *De quadrupedibus digitatis viviparis et oviparis.* Bononiae, Tebaldinum, 1645. All the writings of Aldrovandus are considered rare, and these five volumes are exceptionally fine copies, in perfect condition, which greatly enhances their value. (Presented by Sir William Osler, M.D., Bart.)

Alexander Aphrodiseus et Michael Epheseus. *Simplicii commentaria in tres libros Aristotelis de anima.* Venetiis, Aldi Manutii, 1527. (Fund for rare books.)

Alghisi, Tommaso. *Litotomia, ovvero del cavar la pietra.* Firenze, Manni, 1707. (Presented in the name of Dr. Alfred Stillé.)

Bacci, Andrea. *Del Tevere. Libri tre.* Venetia, 1576. (Fund for rare books.)

Bauderon, Bricius. *Paraphrase sur la pharmacopée.* 2d ed. Lyon Servain, 1596. This is a rare edition of what, in its time, must have been a popular book. The Index-Catalogue does not contain this edition, and no mention is made of it in Brunet. There is a book-plate on the inside of the first fly-leaf which shows that this copy was once in the possession of the "Yemeniz Library"; and a leather label on the inside of the cover, that it was later in the Robert Hoe Library. This book was bound by Trautz-Bauzonnet. (Presented by Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.)

Beroaldus, Philippus. *Opusculum de terraemotu et pestilentia Bononiae, Benedictus,* 1515. (Fund for rare books.)

*Bibliotheca anatomica.* 2 vols. Genevae, Chouët, 1685. (Presented by Mrs. Henry C. Chapman.)

Bottarelli, Giovanni. *De bagni di San Casciano.* Firenze, Vangelissi, [1688]. (Fund for rare books.)

Brown, William. *To the medical officers of the general and flying hospitals in the army of the United States.* Philadelphia, 1780. [Broadside.] (Presented by Dr. William Pepper.)

Browne, John. *Compleat treatise of the muscles.* [London], Newcombe, 1681. This is a fine copy of a rare work printed in English, and noted for its illustrations. (Presented by Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.)

Carnarius Gandensis, Joannes. *De podagrae.* Patavii, 1553. (Fund for rare books.)

de l'Epée, Charles Michel l'Abbé. *Institution des sourds et muets.* Paris, Nyon, 1776. (Fund for rare books.)

a Fonseca, Rodericus. *De calculorum remediis.* Romae, Ruffinellus, 1586. (Fund for rare books.)

Galen, Claudius. *Exhortatio ad bonas arteis.* Basileae, Froben, 1526. (Presented in the name of Dr. Alfred Stillé.)

Galen, Claudius. *Libri duo.\*\*\* Astrologia ad aphrodisium. De urinis.* Venetiis, [Patavinus] 1535. (Fund for rare books.)

Garcia, Mathias. *Disputationes medicinae selectae.* Lugduni Bourgeat, 1677. This work must be quite rare. Not in Brunet, or in the other bibliographical works consulted. Not in the Index-Catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Office. (Presented by Dr. F. P. Henry, in the name of Dr. Herbert Norris.)

Glauber, Joh. Rudolph. *De Elia artista.* Amsterdam, Waesberge, 1668. (Fund for rare books.)

Glauber, Joh. Rudolph. *De igne secreto philosophorum.* Amsterdam, Jansson, 1669. (Fund for rare books.)

Glauber, Joh. Rudolph. *Glauberus concentratus.* Amsterdam, Waesberge, 1668. (Fund for rare books.)

de Gradi, Joannes Matthaeus Ferrarius, Practica. Venetiae, Scoti, 1520. (Fund for rare books.)

Harvey, William. Exercitationes de motu cordis et sanguinis. Edinburgi, Carfrae, 1824. (Presented by Dr. A. P. Brubaker.)

Hippocrates. Chymicus; seu, Chimiae Hypocraticae. Coloniae, Vanden Dyek, 1690. Copies of this little book are very rare. Not mentioned by Poggendorff, Brunet, Graesse and other bibliographers. Prof. John Ferguson, in his *Bibliotheca chimica*, vol. 1, p. 118, states that he has never seen a copy. Not in the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office. (Fund for rare books.)

Lemnius [Ziriczaeus], Laevinus. Secret miracles of nature. London, Streater, 1658. (Presented by Dr. Bayard Kane.)

Redi, Francesco. Osservazioni intorno agli animali viventi. Firenze, Matini, 1684. (Presented by Sir William Osler, M.D., Bart.)

Sanctorius, Sanctorius. De statica medicina aphorismorum. Londini, Bowyer, 1716. (Presented by Dr. George W. Norris.)

Savonarola, Giovanni Michele. Libreto de tutte le cose che se manzano comunamente. Venetia, de Luere, 1508. (Fund for rare books.)

Sophia, Marsilius de Saneta. Tractatus celeberrimus de febribus. Lugduni, Trot, 1507. (Fund for rare books.)

Tagaultius, Johannes. De chirurgica institutione libri quinque. Lugduni, Rovillium, 1560. (Fund for rare books.)

Thornton, Robert John. Preuves de l'efficacité de la vaccine. Paris, Chomel, 1808. (Presented by Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.)

Valverde, Joan. De animi et corporis sanitate tuenda libellus. Venetiis, Lilius, 1553. (Fund for rare books.)

Victorius Faventinus [de Victoriis], Leonellus. Practica medicinalis. Venetiis, Constantinum, 1553. (Fund for rare books.)

Zacchias, Paulus. Quaestionum medico-legalium. Francofurti a. M., Bencard, 1688. (Presented by Mrs. Henry Chapman.)

### *Manuscripts*

de Benneville, George. Medicina Pensylvania. [Philadelphia, circa 1770.] (German and English text.) (Presented by L. G. Myers, Esq.)

Coates, Samuel. Autograph letter to his kinsman, Joseph Paschall, September 25, 1793. Philadelphia, 1793. Written during the yellow fever epidemic and interesting on account of its reference to Rush. (Presented by Dr. William Pepper.)

Massa de Argenta, Baptista. De fructibus vescendis. [Ferrariae, 1471.] The printed book is one of the earliest dated incunabula, and extremely rare. Maggs Brothers, of London, from whom the present book was obtained, made the following statement: "probably the original

manuscript from which the book was printed." (Presented by Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.)

Redman, John. Autograph letter to the Rev. Ashbell Green, Princeton, September 14, 1798. [Philadelphia], 1798. Written and signed by the first President of the College. (Presented by Dr. William Pepper.)

Shippen, William, Sr. Autograph letter to George Washington, December 10, 1783. Philadelphia, 1783. Written by Dr. William Shippen, Sr., father of the second President of the College. This is a letter of congratulation, written in the third person. Endorsed in Washington's handwriting. (Presented by Dr. William Pepper.)

#### *Other Interesting Accessions*

Aesculapius. A very handsome print of E. J. Poynter's painting entitled: A Visit to Aesculapius. (Presented by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell.)

Rabelais, Franeois. Photograph of Rabelais' portrait in the Library of the University of Geneva. Dr. Charles G. Cumston, of Boston, from whom it was purchased, says: "This is, I believe, the only authentic likeness of the great physician."

Royal College of Physicians of London. A colored print of a meeting of the Fellows of the College of Physicians (London). Published May 1, 1808. Rowlandson & Pugin, Delt & Sculpt. Bluck Aquat. Colored prints of this description are rare and quite difficult to obtain. (Presented by Dr. Richard H. Harte.)

Badge with bronze medal attached, worn by members of the Ninth International Otological Congress, August 12 to 17, 1912. (Presented by Dr. B. Alexander Randall.)

Massive oak desk. (Presented by Dr. J. Norman Henry.)

Shoe buckle worn by Benjamin Rush. (Presented by his great-granddaughter, Elizabeth Rush Porter.)

In many respects this year's report is extremely gratifying: the figures show a marked increase in the number of readers (1172), as well as an increase in the number of volumes consulted, and the number of books taken out; also that the use of the Library by the Fellows of the College has increased. The evening hours show an increase in the total number of visitors recorded, and the average attendance of the Fellows of the College is slightly higher than for the past year. Last year special note was made of the increased use of the "Study Rooms," the average number of volumes called for and retained in these rooms being about 150; the records kept for this year give an average of 142 volumes.

The decrease in the number of unbound "Reports" and "Transactions," as well as unbound pamphlets, is accounted for by the fact that 5091 of these have been bound in 370 volumes and placed in their proper class upon the shelves.

The Library Committee endeavor each year to make such appropriation, as their funds will permit, for repairing and rebinding books found in a damaged condition, either from age or use; as well as for the binding, for their preservation, of such publications issued in the form of pamphlets, as can be properly grouped in volumes.

Through the generosity of Dr. Francis R. Packard, locked steel bookcases with plate wire glass doors, finished in mahogany to match the other furnishings, have been erected in the "Packard Room" to accommodate the valuable collection of manuscripts belonging to the College.

The Library Committee have had bookcases of the same style and construction built in Study Room No. 1, to accommodate the collection of books known as the "Lewis Curios," as well as the rare and valuable books, other than incunabula, belonging to the Library, that it is thought desirable to remove from the stacks and keep in locked cases. It is earnestly hoped that some provision will be made to furnish this room appropriately, and that the College will authorize that it be named the "Samuel Lewis Room," in memory of Dr. Samuel Lewis, one of the great benefactors of the Library. When Dr. Lewis made his first gift of books in 1864, the following Resolution was offered by Dr. Alfred Stillé, at that time Chairman of the Library Committee, at a stated meeting of the College, March 2, 1864: "*Resolved*, That the thanks of the College are hereby presented to Dr. Samuel Lewis for his magnificent gift of more than 2500 volumes of medical books, and that they shall be preserved as a separate collection under the name of the Lewis Library." Dr. Lewis was well aware, long before his death (1890), that the modern arrangement of books by classes and their storage in book-stacks, made it undesirable to receive or hold separate collections, and acquiesced in the fact that when the necessity arose the books of the Lewis

Library should be arranged in their proper classes with the other books belonging to the College.

It may be possible at some time in the future to arrange a room with the works of famous physicians, illustrating the discoveries and advancement in the science of medicine, from the inception of printing; each book to have a card inserted with explanatory note, showing why the author's writings were given a place in the collection. This would make an extremely interesting exhibit.

Three "Library Funds" have been received by the College during the past year: the "John H. Musser Library Fund," \$500 (it was Dr. Musser's intention at the time of the gift to make this a fund of five or ten thousand dollars, and had he lived this would undoubtedly have been carried out); the "Douglas Stockton Warren Memorial Fund," \$3000, and the "J. Ewing Mears Library Fund," \$2000. In his letter to the College Dr. Mears states: "It is my expectation to add, within the next year, three thousand dollars (\$3000) to complete the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5000) which I have fixed as the amount of the Fund." The Library Committee has also received notification from the Secretary that the College, at its stated meeting November 7, "accepted a donation from Dr. John B. Roberts of five hundred dollars (\$500) which he has given as a nucleus of a Catalogue Endowment Fund."

LIBRARY COMMITTEE,  
WILLIAM J. TAYLOR,  
*Chairman.*

S. WEIR MITCHELL, M.D.,  
FRANCIS R. PACKARD, M.D.,  
GEORGE W. NORRIS, M.D.,  
ASTLEY P. C. ASHHURST, M.D.

FREDERICK P. HENRY, M.D.,  
*Honorary Librarian.*

CHARLES PERRY FISHER,  
*Librarian.*

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